

Nodejs

Nodejs – problem & solution

Use variable in Regular expression

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Javascript

Normally i just use the search method from the String object.

```
var myString = "i love nodejs";
if(myString.search(/nodejs/i) != -1) {
    console.log("i find it");
}
```

The problem is when you want to use a variable instead it will not work properly like desired.

```
var myRegexNotWorking = ['/regex1/i',  
  '^regex2/g',  
  'etc...'];  
var myRegexWorking = ['regex[0-9]'];  
var myString = 'regex1';  
for(var i in myRegexNotWorking) {  
  if(myString.search(myRegexNotWorking[i]) != -1) {  
    console.log("i find it");  
  }  
}  
for(var i in myRegexWorking) {  
  if(myString.search(myRegexWorking[i]) != -1) {  
    console.log("i find it");  
  }  
}
```

If you want a complete regex you will need to use the RegExp object.

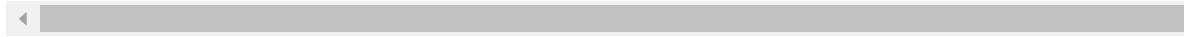
```
var myRegexNowWorking = ['regex1',  
  '^regex2',  
  'etc...'];  
var myString = "REGEX1";  
for(var i in myRegexNowWorking) {  
  var regex = new RegExp(myRegexNowWorking[i]."ig");  
  if(regex.test(myString) == true) {  
    console.log("i find it");  
  }  
}  
// Or you can do this  
var myString = "REGEX1";  
var regex = /^regex1/ig;  
console.log(regex.test(myString));
```

Be aware, you will need escaping all your slash in your string if you are using this method like Jonathan Swinney said on a [stackoverflow question](#).

If you want to replace using a regex you can use replace from the string object.

```
var sourceString = "10 10 10 10 10 10";  
var myRegVariable = "10";  
var myReg = new RegExp(myRegVariable, "g");  
console.log(sourceString.replace(myReg, "20"));  
console.log(sourceString.replace(/10/g, "20"));
```

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